4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

service providers.

## 1 What is claimed is:

For transaction processing involving transaction information related to services 1 1. 2 provided by one of a plurality of vendors and processed by one of a plurality of service providers, a transaction validation system for auditing comprising: a central processor 4 arrangement programmed and configured to maintain data relating to an authorized 5 profile list criterion that includes information about authorized users empowered to 6 authorize payment by the vendor, and programmed and configured to process the 7 transaction information by determining whether the transaction information satisfies the 8 authorized profile list criterion, and using the authorized profile list criterion to generate 9 information for auditing a transaction between said one of a plurality of vendors and said one of a plurality of service providers 10

A transaction validation system for auditing according to claim 1, wherein said system further includes a means for generating a quotation coupled to said central processor arrangement.

provided by a vendor, said transaction information initially being generated by one of a plurality of service providers prior to processing by said vendor, a transaction validation system for auditing comprising: a central processor arrangement programmed and configured to maintain data relating to an authorized profile list criterion that includes information about authorized users empowered to authorize payment by the vendor to the service provider, and programmed and configured to process the transaction information by determining whether the transaction information satisfies the authorized profile list criterion, and using the authorized profile list criterion to generate information for auditing a transaction between said vendor and said one of a plurality of

4. A transaction validation system for auditing according to claim 3, wherein said system further includes a means for generating a quotation coupled to said central processor arrangement.

A transaction processing involving transaction information related to services 2 provided by a vendor and a plurality of subvendors and processed by one of a plurality of subvendor controlled service providers, a transaction validation system for auditing 4 comprising: a central processor arrangement programmed and configured to maintain 5 data relating to an authorized profile list criterion that includes information about 6 authorized users empowered to authorize payment by the vendor and subvendors, and 7 programmed and configured to process the transaction information by determining 8 whether the transaction information satisfies the authorized profile list criterion, and 9 using the authorized profile list criterion to generate information for auditing a 10 transaction between said vendor and both of said plurality of subvendors and said plurality of subvendor controlled service providers. 11

A transaction validation system according to claim 5, wherein said system further includes a means for processing transactions for each of said vendor and said subvendor, said processing transaction means coupled to said central processor arrangement.

- 1 7. A transaction validation system according to claim 2, wherein said system
- 2 further includes a means for processing transactions for each of said vendor and said
- 3 service provider, said processing transaction means coupled to said central processor
- 4 arrangement.

3

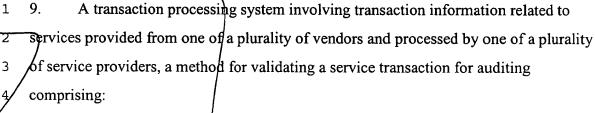
4

A transaction validation system according to claim 8, wherein said processing transaction means is accessible remotely.

5

6

7



generating transaction information prior to processing by vendor;
providing an authorized profile list criterion that includes information about
authorized users empowered to authorize payment by the vendor;

using a computer arrangement, maintaining data relating to the authorized
profile list criterion and processing the transaction information by determining whether
the transaction information satisfies the authorized profile list criterion, and by using the
authorized profile list criterion to generate information for auditing a transaction
between said one of a plurality of vendors and said one of a plurality of service
providers.

- 1 10. A method for validating a service transaction, according to claim 9, further including sending service-related information from an external device and generating a set of transaction information therefrom.
- 1 11. A method for validating a service transaction, according to claim 10, further including informing the computer arrangement of provision of the service by the service providers, and using the computer arrangement to audit the service transaction and payment thereof in response to the transaction information and the authorized profile list criterion.
- 1 12. The method according to claim 9, further including communicating service related information to said computer arrangement from remote location.
- 1 13. For transaction processing involving transaction information related to services provided from a vendor and one of a plurality of subvendors and processed by one of a

3	plurality of subvendor control	led service providers, a method for validating a service
4	transaction for auditing comp	rising:
5	generating transaction	information prior to processing by subvendor;
6	providing an authorize	d profile list criterion that includes information about
7	authorized users empowered t	b authorize payment by the vendor; and
8	using a computer arrar	gement, maintaining data relating to the authorized
9	profile list criterion and proce	sing the transaction information by determining whether
10	the transaction information sa	isfies the authorized profile list criterion, and by using the
11 <sup>.</sup>	authorized profile list criterior	to generate information for auditing a transaction
12	between said one of a plurality	of vendors and said one of a plurality of service
13	providers.	

1 14. A system for billing a vendor and subvendor, and paying a service provider and 2 a subvendor for a completed service-related transaction, comprising:

means for receiving a set of transaction information including the cost of service from a central processor arrangement; and

means for processing a credit account for the vendor, for verifying that the vendor has sufficient credit to fund the cost of service, for indicating when the account for the vendor should be debited, and for indicating when payment to the service provider and subvendor should be tendered, and for notifying a financial institution the cost of service.

120,1921/00

1 15. A method for billing a vendor and subvendor, and paying a service provider and 2 a subvendor for a completed service-related transaction, comprising:

receiving a set of transaction information including the cost of service from a central processor arrangement; and

using a computer arrangement for processing a credit account for the vendor, for verifying that the vendor has sufficient credit to fund the cost of service, for indicating when the account for the vendor should be debited, for indicating when payment to the

service provider and subvendor should be tendered, and for notifying a financial institution of the cost of the service.